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Academic Board
Report of the Vice-Chancellor

1. Report of Academic Promotions Committee

Academic Board is invited to note the Report of the Academic Promotions Committee (confidential tabled Attachment A).

2. Academic Accolade – Professor Marilyn Lake

I am delighted to report formally to Academic Board another major achievement by Professor Marilyn Lake (History Program) who was the joint winner in the non-fiction category of the Prime Minister's Literary Awards which were announced last week. The work which she co-authored with Professor Henry Reynolds, *Drawing the Global Colour Line,* has received a number of major literary awards, including the 2008 Queensland Premier's History Book Prize and the University of Melbourne's prestigious Ernest Scott History Prize.

I am sure that members of the Board would wish to join me in congratulating Marilyn on this very fitting recognition of her academic standing, which is also a further testimony to the University's research strengths in the humanities and social sciences.

3. Preference Data

The preliminary VTAC data released last week showed that the University's share of timely first preferences rose by a very pleasing 15%.

The 34% increase in first preference demand for Health Sciences stands out and shows the popularity of the recently introduced common first year and the boost the University has received with the announcement of the $89 million La Trobe Rural Health School to be based in Bendigo.

Total campus first preferences for Bendigo were up 38%, Albury-Wodonga 42%, Shepparton 57% and Mildura campus 25%.

4. La Trobe Institute of Molecular Sciences

On Monday, 2 November 2009, the $97.9 million La Trobe Institute of Molecular Sciences (LIMS) was formally launched at the Bundoora Campus by Senator the Hon Kim Carr (Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research) at a function attended also by the Hon Martin Ferguson (Member for Batman and Minister for Resources and Energy).

Senator Carr also announced that Lyons, a Melbourne-based architectural and urban design practice, had won the contract to construct the facility in a selective entry competition, and opened the LIMS Cell Death and Cancer Symposium, a one-day conference bringing together leading researchers on cell death from Australia and New Zealand.

Joint Commonwealth and University funding for LIMS will help drive the University's international reputation for science research, as well as elevate the University's ability to earn research income by attracting additional income of $10 million annually.

5. Strategic and Operational Planning

As reported to the last meeting, a facilitated half-day workshop will be on 27 November 2009 involving those who have direct responsibility for implementing the University's strategic direction (the Deputy and Pro Vice-Chancellors, Senior Executive members, Faculty Deans, and Heads of School). The forum will provide an opportunity for reporting back from the working groups which are preparing proposals covering research, community engagement, equity and pathways, as well as the Compacts discussion with DEEWR and DIISR held on 12 October 2009.

The subsequent strategic planning schedule is as follows:

- 14 December 2009: Council will consider feedback from the Strategic Planning Workshop.
- January/February 2010 (tbc): Planning and Resources Committee retreat to consider feedback from the Strategic Planning Workshop and from Council.
- 13-14 February 2001: Council retreat to consider strategic issues.
- 18-19 February 2010: Senior Academic retreat to consider draft Strategic Plan.
- 22 March 2010: finalised Strategic Plan to be considered by Council.

In conjunction with the strategic planning process, an integrated operational planning, review and annual operational monitoring schedule is being implemented.

6. Policy Seminars

A number of members of the Board attended the second in the Vice-Chancellor's Colloquia, a very illuminating presentation by Professor Trevor Gale, Director of the National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education at the University of South Australia on the challenges in higher education provision to students from low SES backgrounds in the context of stagnate student demand and insufficiently qualified applicants.

On Friday, 13 November 2009 Bill Massy, Emeritus Professor of Education and Business Administration, Stanford University, and President of the Jackson Hole Higher Education Group Inc. Professor Massy will visit the University to present a seminar on promoting academic productivity at the School and Faculty level which is particularly relevant for Heads of Schools.

7. Major Events

The past month has been a very busy one with the University hosting a number of major events.

- the Bundoora Community Reception was held on 7 October 2009 (following similar events at Bendigo, Mildura, Albury-Wodonga and Shepparton);
- the Annual Alumni Dinner took place on 20 October 2009, with alumnus Andrew Demetriou (CEO of the Australian Football League) as the keynote speaker.
- a very pleasingly large number of the Founding Cohort of graduates attended a range of reunion events on 23-24 October 2009 to mark the 40th anniversary of the University's first graduation ceremonies;

- on 26 October 2009, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, His Excellency Mr Zhang Junsai, presented a major public lecture;
- the Inaugural La Trobe Law Lecture was delivered on 30 October 2009 by Chief Justice Robert French;
- a number of events for our international alumni are currently underway in the People's Republic of China, Singapore and Malaysia.

Professor Paul Johnson
Vice-Chancellor

9 November 2009

CONFIDENTIAL

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LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC BOARD

REPORT OF ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 2009

1. The Academic Promotions Committee was established by the Academic Board in May 2009 to consider applications for promotion to Academic Levels B, C, D and E.

2. Promotion is awarded on the basis of demonstrated and sustained academic achievement which supports the University's strategic goals and contributes to the achievement of the University's key measures of performance in teaching, research and university and community service.

3. The Academic Promotions Committee met for the first time in September 2009, and subsequently in October and November to consider applications and obtain reports on the applications from a range of assessors.

4. The committee recommends that the following members of staff be promoted with effect from 9 November 2009, subject to confirmation that each has completed a program of instruction in the principles of Equal Opportunity conducted by the University:

Applicant	School/Centre	Position
Dr Naveen Chilamkurti	Engineering & Mathematical Sciences	Senior Lecturer
Dr Jack Reynolds	Communication, Arts & Critical Enquiry	Senior Lecturer
Dr Adrian Jones	Historical and European Studies	Associate Professor

5. The Vice-Chancellor has approved the committee's recommendations.

6. The Academic Board is informed of these promotions.

Belinda Probert
Chair, Academic Promotions Committee

Professor T Fitzgerald
Professor D Harding
Professor G Jack
Professor G Kinsella
Professor P Mathews
Professor M Pitts
Professor R Staudte
Professor A Street

Approved by Vice-Chancellor
9/11/09
Date